

Shea, Valois

From: Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)
Sent: Tuesday, May 09, 2017 2:58 PM
To: Shea, Valois
Subject: Dewey-Burdock proposal public comment

To Whom It May Concern,

I strongly encourage the Environmental Protection Agency to protect the public's interest in clean, abundant, safe water in the southern Black Hills by denying the Dewey-Burdock project the required permits to mine uranium.

Water is always a precious commodity in this semi-arid region, and this proposed uranium mining project will utilize far too much of it for daily operations. Overdraw of the aquifers in question is a real concern. The Dewey-Burdock project is requesting access to far too large a quantity of water in comparison to the annual recharge of these formations. If severe, prolonged drought comes to this region, as it has in the past, that water will be needed to serve the people, livestock and agriculture of area.

Overdraw is one concern, and when combined with the sizable potential for contamination of the local aquifers, it becomes clear that this project should not be allowed by the EPA. The few studies of the geology of the region indicate that there is no way to isolate the mining chemicals to one formation, as the Dewey-Burdock proposal claims they will do. There are too many features, natural and man-made, that cut across formations, that can allow for contaminants to migrate into unwanted areas.

Finally, the recent reports of outside waste being brought in to be disposed of in this area are very disconcerting. If true, these mining byproducts would only add to the potential for contamination in the region.

I ask that the EPA put aside all other concerns associated with this mining project, and focus on the facts that the Dewey-Burdock proposal asks for far too much access to public groundwater, and seems little concerned about the large potential for toxic contamination across several aquifers in question. The small amount of potential economic benefit this project could bring the Edgemont region is nothing when compared to the large hazard posed to our water supply. Stop this proposed project once and for all!

Thank you.

Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)
Concerned Citizen
Rapid City, South Dakota